

Commercial and Industrial Buildings,
Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad,
Freight Depot
Sixth and White streets
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-160-AA

HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU,
13-AA -

DRAWINGS

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Commercial and Industrial Buildings,

**Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul
Railroad, Freight Depot**

3-DUBU,
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Site Location: Sixth and White Streets
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 7.35
Cadastral grid : SE1/4 SE1/4 S24 T89N R2E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
Lot description: Portion of City Lots 515-522
Present Owner: Iowa Department of Transportation
Present Usage: warehouse
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: 57'10"x 316'5"

Orientation : west

Architectural

Description :

Plan type : 1-story rectangular, open-space warehouse,
with two-story head house on south end.

Foundation: coursed ashlar limestone perimeter walls, with
stone beam pedestals.

Structure : wood frame with masonry bearing walls.

Ext. walls: common red brick laid in common bond.

Roofs : moderately pitched end gables sheathed with
3-tab asphalt shingles.

Chimneys : one exterior corbeled brick chimney on south
wall of head house.

Windows : painted wood 2/2 double-hung windows in 2-story
portion; all have relatively plain exterior
casings, stone lintels and lug sills.

Openings : horizontally and vertically sliding loading
doors line the east and west walls; these are
typically vertical plank doors; single-leaf
entrance on south side of head house; other
sectional doors added in head house portion.

Details : slightly corbeled brick paneling on walls,
creating evenly spaced pilasters; **FREIGHT
HOUSE** painted in a band on west wall of head
house between 1st and 2nd floors.

Construction Date : 1874; 1896

Architecture Style: 19th Century Functional

Physical History : In 1870 the Chicago, Dubuque and Minnesota [CD&M] Railroad
constructed a four-story passenger/freight depot on the east side of White
Street between Fifth and Sixth streets. Four years later a brick freight house

was built just south of the existing depot by the CD&M and the Chicago, Clinton and Dubuque [CC&D] railroads - two lines controlled by the same directorate. Measuring 58'x 146', the latter building consisted of a long, single-story warehouse, adjoined on the south by a two-story head house, which contained the freightmaster's and dispatcher's offices. An open platform extended south of the head house; a covered platform lined the length of building's east wall at trackside. (This structure constitutes the southern portion of the present building.) Both the CD&M and the CC&D lines were acquired by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul [CM&StP] Railroad in 1881. Sometime after 1891, the CM&StP razed the 1870 depot, and in 1896 the railroad extended the one-story warehouse section of this building 170 feet to Sixth Street. More than doubling the building's footprint, this extension replicated the proportions, roofline and fenestration of the original section. The building has functioned until recently as originally designed. It has undergone relatively minor alterations of its openings but retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

Significance: Predated one year by the Illinois Central Railroad Freight House [HABS No. IA-160-G], the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Freight Depot is significant as a relatively well preserved example of what was once a common railroad-associated building type.

References: Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.
Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1884, 1891, 1909, 1972.
Iowa State Gazetteer and Business Directory: 1882-1923.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 4-5-13-1.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Dubuque: Its Manufacturing and Commercial Facilities, Together with Its Railroads, Public Buildings, Business Growth and Future Prospects (Dubuque: The Times Company, 1886).
Franklin Oldt and P.J. Quigley, *History of Dubuque County, Iowa* (Chicago: Goodspeed Historical Association, 1911).
Dubuque Daily Herald: 24 May 1896.

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